The Pacific.

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POETRY.

My First Home and My Last.

BY AN INVALID.

Out of my first home, warm and bright,
I passed to the cold world's lowering night,
From love more real than light or life,
To doubts and jealousy, fears and strife;
To doubts and jealousy, fears and strife;
Ill hath it ended that well begun—
Into the shadow, out of the sun.

Out of my last home dark and cold,
I shall pass to the city whose streets are gold;
From the silence that falls upon sin and pain,
To the deathless joy of the angels' strain;
Well shall be ended that ill begun—
Out of the shadow, into to the sun!

The Sphere and Duties of Government

IN REFERENCE TO PUBLIC MORALITY.

Lecture before the Young Men's Christian Association of San Francisco, Thursday evening Jan. 4th, 1855, by Fletcher M. Haight, Esq.

In the yearnings for a higher civilization and a more perfect development of the individual man, which distinguish our day and generation, we perceive not only a great advance in all the arts conducive to social progress, but systems of government and the relative rights and duties of the governors and the governed, have been subjected to the severe test of philosophic examination and analysis. The great object of Government, which in all countries and and under all circumstances, must be to secure the rights of persons and property as well from domestic violence or fraud, as from foreign invasion, has not been doubted or denied. It may now be conceded that in few countries where modern civilization has made any progress, is the great, and to us, obvious truth that Government was made for man and not man for the Government, doubted or denied. Of the theory in this broad and general sense, we are all convinced. The truths which were slowly, but practically worked out by our colonial ancestors, have become, in the progress of events, the corner stones upon which are sought to be erected the superstructure of Government. Yet so intimately connected are all theories of Government with the actual experience and inner life, if I may so designate daily habits of thought and opinion, that no country has ever yet by any sudden and violent effort changed at once the Government of force for that of opinion and been successful in the effort.—This is asserted in regard to domestic changes. The yoke of foreign oppression may be thrown off, and with independence may come freedom, but no change arising from domestic causes which attempts, in a brief period to uproot all old associations and found a new Government upon any, even the best model, has succeeded. It is needless to quote instances. The student of history cannot fail to have remarked in the modern revolutions of continental Europe, these convulsive throes, nor to have perceived with what slow, though sure progress the British Constitution has been gradually forming, expanding and popularizing since the Barons of England compelled the grant of Magna Charta. If the life-time of a man scarcely suffices the great object of individual education, how can we anticipate that the mass of any people in less than a life-time can be rendered capable of sustaining by their own free and voluntary acts, a system of Government neither captivating by its splendor, nor sustained by arms, but resting entirely upon the intelligence and moral purity of the Governed. When therefore, we look for the emancipation of the people, and expect pure republican simplicity to replace the effete and apparently almost worn out monarchies of the old world it would be well to ascertain how far the great mass have been prepared by previous training for such great changes. Such results may as well be looked for, as that indicated in the homely and vulgar adage, that "when the sky falls we shall catch larks." It is in vain that a few enthusiastic, intelligent and patriotic men work, and labor, and fight, and fall—the leaven that is to leaven the whole mass is wanting, and those whose utmost cares and greatest anxieties have not mounted higher than the acquisition of food and raiment are content with any system which, in its administration gives promise of repose and security. The problem which in this country has so far been successfully worked out is neither understood nor appreciated by foreign philosophers, nor by many foreign emigrants to our shores. Indeed in our own country and among our own people, it is greatly to be feared that we are forgetting the great truth, "That we hold our liberties by the tenure of continuing worthy to hold them." Nor is there any want of noisy complaint and condemnation in the mass of various practices at war with sound morals, social happiness and security. Abundance of censure in the general, may be found in the public press and in the public assemblies of the people. But the moment you propose to put these general anathemas in the form of an individual or particular application you will be met with such a diversity of sentiment and such an opposition of views as to satisfy you that while vice in the abstract, may be regarded with aversion, individual aberation must be looked upon as venial—not only this, but those who are loud in the condemnation of the prevalent vices and immoralities of the times, can always see great danger in any remedies sought to be applied. It is not by general complaints, or the scoldings like those of garrulous old women—that any community was ever reformed, or kept from falling, if it did not need reformation. The axe must be laid at the root—the principle of good must be maintained, that of evil eradicated. A few plain principles are the results of all experience. There is no such thing in the history of any people, as sound morals in the absence of religious principle. There never was a moral community, or a community where order was maintained upon the basis of public sentiment in which there was no regard for the Sabbath day. There are but two safeguards of public order and security—one is force and the other opinion. The former is that used by the Governments of Europe in all their large cities. Public quiet and order are maintained by an effective force always at hand. Justice in other than political offences is sure and speedy. In the great mass of individual crimes and offences, there is no complaint of want of efficiency in the administration of the laws, or want of vigilance in detecting offenders. Public order and an effective police are essential and necessary to the existence of the Government, or rather to the maintenance of the rulers for the time being. When, however, you have passed from a Government of force to one depending upon opinion, it is most obvious that upon the unity and intelligence of that opinion, safety must depend. It is true that force is the ultimate resort of all Governments, but in a sense not inconsistent with the distractions I have stated In a Government like ours, the execution of the laws is entrusted to officers chosen by the governed, and though the Sheriff may command the posse comitatus as the lawyers call it, and is theoretically invested with ample power to enforce his process, yet in a matter affecting public opinion where it is averse to the execution of the law, his call for aid will be like "calling spirits from the vasty deep"—He may call, but will they come? This has been amply verified in the execution of the fugitive slave law in all those communities opposed upon principle to its enactment and in various other instances which will readily occur even to a careless observer of passing events. More, however, of this hereafter, and I proceed to consider more particularly the proposition before us, viz: The duties and responsibilities of Government in reference to public morality. Certain duties all agree, devolve upon Government, such as the punishment of crimes committed against property—violations of personal liberty and offences involving directly individual security. It is not of the criminal code I design to speak, but of those preventive and indirect measures which have for their object a higher standard of morals for the people—a more perfect and complete enjoyment of those rights and privileges guarantied to all.

Is it for example within the province of Government to forbid public amusements on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday? to prohibit the business of liquor traffic on that day, or generally—to abolish public gambling houses and visit the sin and guilt of this vice upon the offenders? These are practical matters and the enquiry how far the rightful powers of Government may extend in these matters, is an enquiry, of deep and general interest. For moral and good men, especially those professing the belief and creed of the christian, should always see to it that their advocacy of any measures, is founded upon principles compatible with social well being applied in all conceivable cases. The aphorism of Jeremy Bentham, "the greatest happiness of the greatest number" has been the end proposed by the philanthropist and at the same time the shibboleth of the demagogue. How far may Government act in this matter and what are the boundaries beyond which it must not pass? The sphere and duties of Government, is the subject of an exceedingly able article in the October number of the Westminster Review. The article is a review of, or rather suggested by a remarkable book, justly so entitled by the reviewer, and written by Baron von Humboldt, the elder brother of the great naturalist and published since the death of the author. The positions assumed, may be generally stated as follows. The author (Baron Humboldt) says:

"If we come now to the ultimate result of the whole argument we have been endeavoring to develope, the first principle we eliminate will be, that the state is to abstain from all solicitude for the *positive* welfare of the citizens, and not proceed a step further than is necessary for their mutual security, and protection against foreign enemies; with no other object should it impose restrictions on freedom."

In accordance with this general proposition the reviewer deduces others which are corollaries, viz:

I. All legislation having for its object an indirect influence upon education and morals, is not within the sphere and duties of Government.

2. That Government being the mere agent of individuals, can have no other or greater rights than individuals, and what an individual is not authorized to correct by force, is equally beyond the sphere and duties of Government.

The examination of these propositions would extend greatly beyond the limits prescribed on this occasion, and I have now merely stated them for the purpose of exhibiting the principles upon which this matter must rest. They may all be resolved into this general enquiry for the present purpose. Is it within the sphere and duties of Government to legislate for positive welfare, or is it within the appropriate exercise of Governmental power to promote this welfare by indirect means? For instance, ignorance and vice are admitted consorts. Is it admissible to legislate for public and general education to promote through this means, the virtue and happiness of the people? This is an instance, and the most palpable one of the indirect influences. The author and the reviewer say not. It may be conceded that the world is governed too much, and that local, sectional and interested legislation has often been the result of a confused or inadequate conception of the province and duty of Government. It may be true that many have grown fat upon the unclean drippings of partial legislation, yet before we conclude to abandon the exertion of the powers of Government for promote good—such, for instance, as education, internal improvement and obvious morality, we may inquire whether the theories I have stated belong to that practical class which our own experience has applied to the liberal and free Governments of this Union, or whether they are the Utopian dreams of a transcendental and impracticable philosophy—as applied to us, I submit these are conclusive answers, but on this occasion little more can be done them to state them.

1. It is admitted that the authority of history and example is against all this theorizing. No Government has yet furnished an instance of the practical working of the theory of the German philosopher or his English reviewer. All experience is the other way and while the blessings and benefits of education and other measures of positive welfare are admitted, it is said these ends may be better attained by individual and voluntary association. It is alleged these ends would be thus attained, if Governmental patronage did not chill and blight individual effort. I have mentioned this subject and the high authority by which it was sustained for the purpose of evidencing what I have already said, that the extreme radical opinions of Europeans, however honestly entertained or ably vindicated, only evidence that they have embraced liberty as a theory, and not a free Government in its necessary and unavoidable practical workings. With us there is no distinction between the governors and the governed—We have, and do from time to time, select our agents, to whom we commit for convenience and effectiveness the same powers we ourselves passed. We impose certain restrictions necessary for the security of individual rights, but the general welfare so far as our State Governments are concerned, is committed to those representatives of our voluntary association. The great distinction between our system and that of European monarchies, Prussia for example, is that our whole system is voluntary, if it would be right and proper for voluntary associations to be formed for great public aims and ends. If, for instance, the great business of education should go on, which all admit, and this as a means of positive welfare and happiness, and interferes with no right, it is within the principle objects and aims of our association for Governmental purposes. But say our philosophers, you have no right to take the money of A. to educate the children of B. for in so doing your acts are partial and oppressive. We answer that the objects of our Government—its constitution—its maintenance—its life and being require that all should be educated for the discharge of the duties of citizenship. All persons in this sense, are the children of the Republic, whoever may be their natural progenitors. The system we have adopted and under which B. prospers and accumulates, renders this education not only expedient, but necessary for safety and mutual protection. If, unlike the Spartan mother, B. has no children to give to the Republic, his failure in one duty should be no exemption from a universal and general burthen. I have instanced this subject of education because this is confessedly by foreign theorists, one of the indirect means of welfare, and not according to their views within the sphere and duties of Government. It is that too, with which all are so familiar that the argument will be better understood. If there ever was a people who learned their rights and ably vindicated them—who left all and toiled and suffered for the enjoyment of perfect freedom, that people were the first colonists of New England. While as yet their whole Government was one of voluntary association, and long before wealth had corrupted, or indolence and luxury relaxed the energies of this stiff-necked race, the general court of Massachusetts compelled schools in every hamlet, and grammer schools in every town of adequate size, supported by taxation, by licensed teachers, and all were compelled to send their children. The first instance on the records of history, when the good of the commonwealth was deemed so intimately associated with the education of the people, that education was compelled.

2. The proposition is not true that the powers conferred on our government are but the aggregation of individual powers, and that what an individual could not compel by force the government should not enforce. Even in our criminal code there are great variety of offences called misdemeanors which individuals have no right to take cognizance of or redress, and which, by the common law and all other codes are denominated criminal, and have been and always will be redressed by the aid of the judicial department of the government. It is only that higher grade of crime known as felonies, in which individuals may arrest when the offender is caught in the very act.

Lastly. Having said thus much, and I fear wearied your patience with what may seem to you abstractions, I come to consider what is the rightful exercise of the powers and duties of government in regard to the passage of laws for the better observance of the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday. Now, we must assume, because our limits do not permit argument, what I suppose all Americans or at least the great majority, admit: That rest from toil and labor one day in seven—that the setting apart of that time to meditation, worship and religious duty, is eminently conducive to the good order, peace, welfare and happiness of any community. If you show me a community where the Sabbath is openly disregarded and set at nought by the whole population, I will show you one where, unrestrained by the power of force at hand to be immediately exercised, crimes of violence and fraud are daily and hourly occurrences, where the bonds of civil order and social life are so weakened that offenders go unpunished, and the greater the criminal the more certain is the immunity from crime. Assuming, therefore, that this is one of those indirect means of promoting the positive welfare of the State; that it stands upon the same foundation with education, internal improvements, and other objects intended for the general welfare, and as regards which there is, it may be assumed, an almost unanimous public sentiment, the enquiry still remains—is there anything in this particular matter which renders it an inappropriate subject of legislation? Those who concede the general principle say that any legislation on this subject is in violation of our conceded principles in regard to the union of church and state, the freedom of conscience, and the liberty of worship. The argument that the compulsory observance of Sunday has any the most remote relation to any particular form of the christian religion, or any mode of worship, is hardly deemed available by those who use it. A form of religion consists of dogmas and ceremonies. The public observance of Sunday has no reference to any particular form of christianity, but on the contrary, leaves the freedom and opportunity of worship in their own way, and after their own forms. It prescribes no dogmas of faith and calls only for abstinence from what may be detrimental to public morals and annoying to those who worship.

In regard to this matter, however, there is this prevailing error—this confounding of forms with things—the substitution in the mind for religion itself, the requirements of sectarian discipline, and because there is the utmost latitude of freedom of worship and of conscience declared in our fundamental laws it is assumed that we as a people, a nation, and a government, have no religion. It may be, and is true, that of its spirit we have less than we ought to have, and that our short-comings in duty are conclusive proofs of the weakness of our faith, yet it is not true that the American People have not an acknowledged religion; we submit it is an assumption contradicted by the fundamental laws of the Republic—by the known, admitted and repeated recognitions of every State government in the Union and of the National government. No nation or people ever yet held together and became a permanent and established community without a religion of some kind, a faith in a something hereafter. It is one of the elements of all national character—it is that which more than anything gives cast, color and complexion to individual character, to national literature, to (in its largest sense) political action. Protestant christianity is the religion of the country: we leave all others free—the fire-worshipper of Persia and the disciple of Confucius—the Brahmin of India and the Priests of Japan, Mahometan and Jew, may here all alike build their temples, pagodas or mosques, and kindle upon altars protected by public law the fires of sacrifice. But it is not the less true that we have a religion of our own, and it is equally certain that, unsustained by the religious principle, a part of our birth-right, and the richest jewel of our inheritance, we should be a chaotic mass and not hang together for ten years. But though we all feel and know that this is so it is well to look back upon our history, our present and past practices, our forms and modes of business, our laws and legislation, and see if there is not in all these the most abundant recognition of the fact of christianity as a living and controlling principle.

The first settlement of this country was made by men not in pursuit of commercial adventure—they did not come in search of gold or precious stones, the hardy race who peopled New England came to found a new empire upon principles such as never before laid at the foundation of national superstructure. With them as with the emigrants to Jamestown, the religious principle was paramount and controlling. So also came William Penn and his colonists—the followers of the inner light. Persecution for religious opinion in some form or other was the origin of most of our great communities, and it would be a denial of all history and a perversion of plain and obvious facts to assert that up to the declaration of Independence and the formation of our Constitution we had not, in all the modes compatible with freedom of conscience acknowledged our faith and taken for our guide the great and sovereign Ruler of the Universe. In that most remarkable document, the declaration of independence, this is the concluding sentence: "and for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of *Divine Providence*, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor." We began the contest acknowledging a Divine Providence and invoking its aid and support, and throughout that long and arduous contest the song of praise and the voice of prayer were heard amid the shouts of victory or the wailings of disaster and defeat. It was this firm reliance upon just and over-ruling providence that sustained the hopes of the patriot and nerved the arm of the soldier. When we look back upon the long preparation of heart and mind for that contest; when in fancy we see the small band that landed upon Plymouth rock, and with nothing before them but the vast, grand, and interminable wilderness, with nothing to look back upon but a boisterous, stormy and winter's sea, do we wonder that is heard to mingle with the moan of the waves and the sighing of the wilderness the hymn of praise and the voice of prayer. Privation and suffering were here, as in most instances, the lot of the early settlers—disease thinned their numbers, and those spared by disease had to combat with want and poverty and savage warfare; but they were made perfect through suffering. It is as true of nations as of individuals, that uninterrupted prosperity has an almost inevitable tendency in nations as well as individuals to demoralization. If it was with a profound knowledge of the human character (even if inspiration is denied) that the great apostle said, "Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth," with nations as with individuals, afflictions seem to be the appointed means of repentance and reform. As has been beautifully said, "suffering is the plow that turns up the furrows of the human soul, into which the Almighty scatters broadcast the seeds of immortal life."

The next recognition or authority on this subject is the constitution of the United States. It requires an oath or affirmation from all public officers, but repudiates any religious test. What is the meaning of this? What is an oath, as understood then as understood now? How is it administered to the President, Members of Congress, &c. If we do not acknowledge and have a religion, what kind of oath or affirmation is intended?

The practice under the government.—Neither house of Congress nor perhaps any State Legislature begins or opens its session on the morning of each day without an invocation to the God of the Christian. Various attempts have been made at different times by men professing great liberality, to abolish this usage as inconsistent with our fundamental laws, but they have always signally failed. If we do not acknowledge God in all our ways, at least there never has been in any American community other than an acknowledgment of our religion in all the ceremonies of great public and national occasions. Within two months past fifteen States of this Union, by public appointment of our rulers, on the same day and about the same hours, sent up their united voices of thanksgiving and praise for the unnumbered mercies and benefits of which we have been the recipients. Other States chose different days, but in nearly if not quite all was at least the form of the annual thanksgiving. What does this mean? Is it a mere form adopted from caprice and continued from habit and ostentation, or is it one of the time honored and sincere outpourings of grateful hearts to the author of all good, for blessings unnumbered and mercies uncounted, from his exhaustless store. It would be easy to multiply instances, and I ought rather to offer an apology for referring to such incidents as I have for the illustration of the truth that we have a religion, though it is purely voluntary and disconnected from the State, and to enforce what is an important truth, that religion may and does exist in the hearts of the people in all the forms of law and legislation and characterises all public occasions, though the State has no church and it is to be hoped never will have any. Because we tolerate all religions it would be a nonsequitur to say we had none. It might as well be said of England and France that they have no national religion, with an established church, because they tolerate dissent and protect dissenters. It is not true, therefore, that the protection of Sunday from desecration has anything to do with a church establishment. We admit that it recognises the christian religion as the religion of the country, and in recognising it it does that entirely consistent with the greatest toleration and in perfect harmony with all our maxims of government and with the most perfect freedom. We understand freedom to consist in doing that which exerts no deleterious influence upon public morals and originates no invasion upon private rights.

The constitution of this State recognises Sunday. It gives ten days to the Governor to return a bill, but if one of those days is Sunday that is not computed because it is not a day for secular thoughts or secular affairs.

Every country has some system of law—some general rules or codes for the determination of private rights and for the security of persons and property. In this State, and all the States of this Union with one exception, the common law of England has been adopted. Now there never was and never can be any system of laws which does not admit as its foundation some system of religion. No code was ever promulgated and no country ever existed under any code or systems of law in any degree of advanced civilization without having more or less of the religious principle as its foundation. The common law, as was well said by the judge of our criminal court the other day, is the birthright of the Anglo Saxon:—wherever he founds his government or is engaged in the administration of its affairs, he carries it with him. In this State, at the first session of the Legislature, and on the 13th day of April, 1850, the Legislature passed a bill introducing the common law in the words following, "The common law of England, so far as it is not repugnant or inconsistent with the constitution of the United States, or the constitution or laws of the State of California, shall be the rule of decision in all the courts of this State."

A similar enactment is found in all the States except Louisiana, and the common law is gradually growing into the rule of decision as new cases arise not provided for by their codes. We thus obtain a system of laws matured by the wisdom and experience of ages adapted to our wants and necessities and consonant with our habits, thoughts, feelings and opinions. It is a vain thing to seek to impose upon any people a system of jurisprudence alien to their habits of daily life. Spain was a Roman province, and the civil law was of course interwoven with the habits, thoughts and opinions of the people, and though the kings of Spain in the 11th or 12th century forbade any quotation or reference to the civil law, yet it continued to be the rule of conduct, and was the foundation of their codes. The laws sustained by habit and opinion were stronger than the Cortes. (See also the instance of Kentucky in reference to laws of Virginia.)

Now I have already said there is not and cannot be a system of jurisprudence which ignores all religious sentiment. We should therefore expect that the common law had some foundation of the kind. It is formally introduced and is to govern in all cases where not inconsistent with the constitution, and where it remains unchanged by positive legislative enactment. If the common law of England is the rule to govern us, where it remains unchanged by the constitution and laws, we are to follow its precepts. It comes in place of legislation and provides for what legislation has omitted, and indicates the offences for which a punishment should be imposed. It will be conceded that if the constitutions of national and state governments do not sanction christianity, at least they do not condemn it. The most that can be said is, they are silent. We are then to look at the common law. Now, we submit the proposition, proved by the ablest commentators and judicial decisions, that christianity is part of and recognised by the common law. In Woodison Lectures, vol. 2, p. 517, it is so stated.

In an early case before England's great Chief Justice, Lord Hale, reported in 1st Ventris, page 293, in Taylor's case, the Court declared the principle that an offence against Christianity was an offence against the common law, for Christianity was part and parcel of the common law. In a later case, of the King vs. Woolstoon, reported in Strange, page 834, the Lord Chief Justice Raymond said: "Christianity is part of the common law of England, and therefore to be protected by it, now whatever strikes at the very root of Christianity, tends manifestly to the dissolution of the civil government. So was Lord Hale's opinion; and I would have it taken notice of that we do not meddle with any difference of opinion, and we interpose only when the very root of Christianity itself is struck at." In these sentiments the whole Court concurred. Other cases might be cited, but for present purposes these are deemed sufficient. Now if Christianity is part of the law of the land, it would seem to be necessary that Sunday as it is called, or the Christian Sabbath, should be protected from open and shameless desecration. Accordingly, we find that it is an offence at common law. In the 4th volume of Sir William Blackstone's commentaries, at page 63, will be found authority on this subject. He says: "Profanation of the Lord's day, vulgarly (but improperly) called Sabbath breaking, is an offence against God and religion, punished by the municipal law of England. For besides the notorious indecency and scandal of permitting any secular business to be publicly transacted on that day in a country professing Christianity, and the corruption of morals which usually follows its profanation, the keeping of one day in seven holy, as a time of relaxation and refreshment as well as for public worship, is of admirable service to a State, considered merely as a civil institution. It humanizes, by the help of conversation and society, the manners of the lower classes, which would otherwise degenerate into a sordid ferocity and savage selfishness of spirit; it enables the industrious workman to pursue his occupation in the ensuing week with health and cheerfulness; it imprints on the minds of the people that sense of their duty to God, so necessary to make them good citizens, but which yet would be worn out and defaced by an unremitted continuance of labor, without any stated times of recalling them to the worship of their Maker. And therefore the laws of King Athelstan forbade all merchandising on the Lord's day under very severe penalties." So wrote the great commentator, and such is the common law. The foundation of the principle was laid before even the Roman conquest. Its recognition is to be found in the laws of the Saxon Athelstan. The same principle will be found elucidated in Kurn's Justice, volume 3, page 304, a book of very high authority.—So also in Kurn's eclesiastical law, 412.

In accordance with this fundamental principle of the common law, various statutes at different times have been passed in England, defining more clearly the offence and annexing appropriate punishments.—Similar statutes have been passed in most of the United States, particularly New York, Missouri and Ohio.

I leave out of this view the New England States. Their positive legislation on the subject of religion and the observance of Sunday, is well, widely and generally known, and may be said to have taken place under circumstances not favorable to free thought on this subject. I believe their legislation was wise, and its wisdom is seen in the good order, quiet and peace of their communities. Nor is there any difficulty in legislation on this subject. Other communities have lead the way, and their experience has defined with accuracy and wisdom what should be done and what left undone. A wise and just medium is found in American and English legislation in regard to this matter. Extremes are not desirable in anything. For instance, the prohibition in that somewhat apochryphal publication called the blue laws of Connecticut, that a man should not kiss his wife on Sunday, would be deemed somewhat extravagant, perhaps difficult of enforcement. But just and wise legislation would meet with public favor and sanction. Some objections have arisen from the fact that there are many among us who bring with them their tastes and habits, and their gratification requires Sabbath desecration. An unanswerable answer to all this is, our laws recognize the Sabbath—its desecration is forbidden by a fundamental principle of the common law of England, which is our guide.—It is the duty of all good citizens to obey the laws; especially is it the duty of those who have chosen this as the land of their adoption, to remember that they came to be protected by laws already made, and under a government formed, and it is neither modest nor decent to ask us to throw away that law which is our inheritance, and to blot out those memories connected with all the glories of the past, and those guaranties which secure to us the blessings of the future, that they may find appropriate employment or amusement.

It is also said that there is a disagreement as to the day to be observed. With a very inconsiderable exception there is no disagreement among Christians. We are under the dispensation of Christianity; we are neither Jews nor Mahometans. Our law fixes the day, and so firmly has it stood the test of time and controversy, that it may for this reason claim to have had more than human agency in its establishment.

I have thus far discussed this subject without reference to any other than the authority of men—to any other law than that of man's creation. I leave the more solemn and impressive argument of religion to the pulpit, where it more appropriately belongs. That the Lord rested the seventh day and hallowed it—that the teachings of Moses and the Prophets—the thunders of Sinai under the old dispensation, and the mission of Christ under the new, all proclaim the duty and enforce its observance, believers in Christianity neither doubt nor deny. In addition to these most impartial men, unaffected with the fanaticism of infidelity—for it has its fanatics—will admit the benign influence of religious teaching and example upon merely secular concerns, and this cannot go on without Sabbath ordinances and observances.

Much has been recently said in regard to means of communication with the Atlantic States, and the consequent anticipated increase of population, business and wealth. These things are worthy the effort of those who seek the public good, but it is no less desirable to attain these ends that social life should find here security and be capable of its highest development. If education was so generally diffused, and morality so firmly established, and Christianity so universally acknowledged, that there might be undisturbed slumber with unbarred doors, throughout the length and breadth of the land, many a worthy working emigrant, with his family around him, would seek here his future home. But how can those who labor for the material interests expect the farmers and artizans of the older States to leave well regulated communities to rear their families where the tone of moral sentiment encourages horse racing on Sundays, and the State is the recipient of the profits of licensed gambling. In no other State of this Union, under the common law system, are these things so, and with all the elements of material growth in greater abundance than in any other land, they must lie in a great measure waste and unoccupied until the tone of public morality shall give some assurance that the night of moral darkness is passed, and the day spring from on high has shone upon us.

Temptations to Fraud.

The late extraordinary increase of defalcations, embezzlements, frauds and robberies committed by men in places of trust is not an unexpected event. When the world was startled by the news of gold mines discovered in California, richer than any that had ever been worked before, men of sober minds predicted a sudden increase of luxury, with its temptations and crimes. The increase of luxury followed immediately. Men who were reared in poverty became suddenly affluant, and made that use of their gains which the newly rich are very apt to do, adopting showy and expensive habits of living. There is nothing more contagious than such habits in a community. Men who are less able to support them are dazzled by them, and are seized by a desire to imitate what they so much admire. Then come temptations to supply by forbidden means the extravagance into which they are betrayed. Merchants' clerks embezzle the money of their employers; post-office clerks rob the mails; tellers in banks pocket the funds of the institutions which employ them; persons to whom the management of railroads is entrusted issue spurious certificates of stocks.

It may be observed that, from the time of the sentimental felon Dr. Dodd to the present day, and doubtless upward from the time of Dodd to that of Jacob and Esau, the incentives to the commission of embezzlements and forgeries have not been so much the necessities of the delinquents as their desire to support a certain style of living. They have defrauded those who trusted them, not because they were hungry or without proper clothing and shelter, but because they desired to live either idly or elegantly. The temptation by which they fell was not that of want, it was a temptation incident to a state of prosperity in the community.

It is not so much the habit of dwelling in elegant and spacious houses, sumptuously furnished, driving handsome carriages, going magnificently dressed and giving costly entertainments—though these may be carried to a high pitch of fastidiousness and effeminancy—that demoralizes the community by its immediate effect, as the wish which it awakens in others to copy the the same style of living. For this reason the man of great wealth, who lives in a style of respectable plainness, does more for the public morals than any declaimer against vice.

The present hard times are the occasion of bitter complaints; we hear from all quarters reports of embarrassments, failures and want of employment. This state of things has its hardships, it is true, but it has also its wholesome effects. It forces many to practice economy who otherwise would have gone on in a career of extravagance which would have ruined them, and makes them familiar with frugal habits in spite of themselves. In the pause from active and eager enterprise which it creates, it gives us leisure to set some things right which are going wrong; it allows us time to detect defaulters and cheats, and ferret out post-office thieves, and it causes the public mind, recovered from the intoxication of prosperity, to dwell upon these offences long enough to give the example of detection and disgrace its due moral effect.—*N. Y. Eve'g Post.*

CREDIT AND CHARACTER.—There is no lesson more important for the young, than that which inculcates promptness and punctuality, not only in all monetary dealings, but in every transaction of life. Nevertheless, it is a common error with many to disregard both qualities, and thus to impair confidence, destroy credit, and weaken character. Only let it once be understood that an individual is reliable and may be depended upon; that he will fulfil his engagements, no matter how fiery the ordeal through which he is compelled to pass, and the character of that man will be established upon a rock of adamant. This is one great secret, not only of success in trade, but of confidence, esteem and respect among friends and neighbors. It forms the soul and source of an enlarged credit. Reliability is indeed not only a great virtue, but it is absolutely essential in our dealings with one another, and in every phase and condition of life. Never make a promise that you do not intend to perform, and be especially careful to avoid entering into an engagement that you know it will be almost impossible to fulfil. The consequences of such an error must be to impair confidence, induce caution, and excite distrust.—*Phila. Inquirer.*

THE PACIFIC.

SAN FRANCISCO,
FRIDAY MORNING, JAN. 12, 1855.

☞ SPECIAL NOTICE. The publication of the Pacific will be suspended next week in consequence of some new arrangements to be made in the printing department. We intend fitting up a new office containing type and other materials of our own, and this and other changes to be made, involve the necessity of the suspension of one week. Two weeks from to-day we shall commence again to go forward without any more delay.

Legislation for the Sabbath.

We invite attention to the able address found on our first page, on the duties of government in reference to public morality. We bespeak for it a slow and careful perusal. The reader will be well repaid for his time spent in it. The general statements are interesting and new to many, and the argument sound and conclusive.

The information given in this address is just what is needed at the present time in our State. Nothing could have been more timely, or better calculated to correct some of the loose and ignorant impressions of late gaining ground in the public mind, in reference to the duties which the State owes to public morals. Practically, the masses of our population have so deteriorated in morals that they are getting very bad in theory. The heart has affected the head. Bad practices have brought about very wrong views. So long have the obligations of our common religion been forgotten, and its institutions disregarded that some are beginning to deny the former and treat with contempt the establishment of the latter. We refer especially to the institution of the Sabbath. This is intimately associated with the existence of pure christianity, with good morals, with the order and welfare of the community. Destroy the Sabbath and the latter cannot exist, or but in name. We all know this in California from a long and severe experience, and who that is an American by birth and education can ever deny it?

And yet, as we have said, other and strange views are beginning to fall upon the public ear and gain a popularity in certain quarters. Some presses even are giving aid to such sentiments. We are gravely told in so many words that our government has nothing to do with christianity or public morality, that as a nation, or government, we are no more Christian than we are Mohammedan or Mormon, and that the State has no more right to prohibit the public desecration of the Sabbath than to enjoin a creed and ceremonies—in other words the government can do nothing for public virtue or for the positive welfare of the citizen.

It is time that sentiments so baneful in their influence upon the public mind, so anti-American, so thoroughly European in their origin and odor, were met and exposed. The author of the address alluded to has well done his task. His allusions to our early history, to the origin of our government, the sentiments of its founders, the recognition of God and the Sabbath in the Constitution of the United States and in those of all the States, and to the Common Law of England, and its adoption everywhere, save in Louisiana, by the American people, are well made and most effective.

We would commend this address of Mr. Haights to the careful study of the members of our Legislature. We think it will throw much light upon the Sabbath question, and aid them in arriving at a just conclusion in reference to framing a law for the better observance of this day. That there are no real objections to the passage of such a law, and that the best interests of our State imperatively demand it they will be induced to believe. That the people as a whole, desire its enactment—especially those now most engaged in Sunday traffic—there can be but little doubt. Public sentiment in the mines as well as in the valleys and large towns, we speak from knowledge, is now ready for it, and we are confident that the law will prove popular and be well sustained.

It has been common for Californians to decry California Society. Children are generally most truthful echoes. An urchin scarcely old enough to articulate cleverly, was asked, not long since, "Well, master John, how do you like California?" "Oh, pretty well," he answered, "but the society is horrible."

The time has passed by for this unmeaning complaint. "Ye shall no more use this proverb."

Our cities are becoming populous with refined and intelligent families. One cannot travel in California without meeting such everywhere. Pleasant cheer is found in thousands of houses on the plains, and in the mountains. We have tarried with many and partaken of their hospitality, whom we would love often to meet in the walks of life. May homes still multiply among us.

Governor Bigler's Message.

This document was given to the Legislature on the third of the month. It is, on the whole, an excellent State paper. Its literary merits might have been enhanced without detracting at all from its strength, though, somewhat perhaps from its length. Still the clearness and fullness with which it treats of most of the subjects it embraces compensates for the space it occupies, and we can honestly say that we read the whole with interest, if not with the highest satisfaction. After an exordium expressing "gratitude to the Great Disposer of human events," and giving good advice to the Legislature, it exhibits the condition of the finances of the State. $1,284,-142 23 debt not provided for.

Amount of debt paid since Dec. 20th, 1853, $1,717,303 47. Only six States in the Union better off. To provide for the payment of the debt the Governor proposes to sell more of the Water Front of San Francisco; petition Congress for the "Civil Fund," or at least the money spent by California in supporting State Government before she was admitted into the Union. And bring into market the swamps and overflowed lands belonging to the State.

He proposes considerable reduction in the expenses of the State Government, and to effect this the Constitution must be amended, but the Governor does not favor a Convention for this purpose which would cost at least $[illegible]. He prefers the method prescribed in the instrument itself—he says.

"By the adoption of the reforms proposed in my Annual Messages of 1853 and 1854, it is believed that an annual saving to the State will be effected, exceeding in the aggregate the sum of three hundred and fifty thousand two hundred dollars, as follows, viz:

By biennial sessions of the Legislature, - - -	$171,000 00
By reducing pay of members, to eight dollars per diem, and mileage one-half - - - -	120,000 00
By limiting session to ninety days, - - - -	43,200 00
By reducing cost of transportation of prisoners, from one dollar to fifty cents per mile, - -	16,000 00
By reducing Governor's salary to six thousand dollars, - - - -	4,000,00
By reducing salary of Supreme Judges to six thousand dollars, - - - - -	12,000 00
	$350,200 00

He suggests also, for the sake of relieving the people from burdens, and allowing the poorest citizen access to the Courts, to reduce the fees of various officers, and to prevent the exaction of pre-payment.

He calls attention to the Public Lands of the State, and urges particularly early and earnest efforts to secure the School Lands, that they may be sold and the interest applied to the support of schools free for all. He speaks largely and highly, to say the least, of Common School education and its benefits, And asks an appropriation to prosecute for escheated estates valued at two millions of dollars, to secure them for the children of the State. And gives the following statistics.

In 1853, the whole number of Puplic Schools was 51; number of Teachers, 57; number of Children reported, 10,953; number attending School, 4,193.

In 1854, number of Schools, 167, being an increase of 116; number of Teachers, 213—increase, 156; number of Children reported, 20,075—increase, 9,122; number attending School, 9,773—increase, 5,580.

Of the present School Law he says:

The existing law may require modification to render action under it efficient in the protection of the oights of the State, and uniform in its operations, and if so, I have no doubt that all the changes required will be suggested by the Superintendent of Public Instruction in his Annual Report, which is commended to your especial consideration.

He speaks in glowing terms of the resources of the mines, and gives the following statistics:

OPERATIONS IN QUARTZ.

Counties.	No. of Cos.	Capital.	Expenses.	Receipts.
Nevada	5	$700,000	$299,870	$716,000
Shasta	1	27,000	19,200	53,000
El Dorado	5	140,000	119,892	490,000
Amador	6	140,000	213,166	412,000
Total	18	$1,007,00	652,128	1,671,000

These eighteen companies have been in successful operation during the past year, and the above figures, obtained upon careful inquiry, may be regarded as nearly correct.

It is proper here also to state that fourteen other companies, four in Siskiyou and Klamath, two in Nevada, one in Sierra, two in Placer, one in Tuolumne, and four in Mariposa, have also been in successful operation, and doing quite as well during the past year as the eighteen above referred to, but as no returns have been received from them they are not included in the above.

It is also known that during the latter part of the year sixteen other companies commenced operations in the following named counties, and with capital stock as below stated.

	No. of Companies.	Capital Stock.
Placer,	1	$ 22 000
Nevada	6	104,000
El Dorado	4	46,000
Amador	3	18,000
Tuolumne	2	50,000
Total	16	$240,000

These new companies, it is understood, all commence operations with very flattering prospects of success.

CANALS AND DITCHES.

	No. of Miles.	Value.
El Dorado	173	$380,000
Calaveras	180	369,000
Tuolumne	185	400,000
Amador	129	298,000
Placer	160	330,000
Nevada	208	400,000
Sierra	129	117,000
Total	1,164	$2,294,000

In addition to the above, in the same counties, and in others, there is quite a number of canals and ditches, which, within a few months, will be in actual use, contributing greatly to the general prosperity of the mining region.

The following is the amount of gold bullion exported to Europe and the Atlantic States, as exhibited by manifest at the Custom House, San Francisco, during the years 1853 and 1854:

1853.	1st Quarter	$15,157,913 58
"	2d "	14,095,035 18
"	3d "	12,241,476 99
"	4th "	15,336,023 18
	Total—1853	$56,830,448 93
1854.	1st Quarter	$ 9,764,702 96
"	2d "	13,786,458 01
"	3d "	13,794,760 47
"	4th "	13,088,752 00
	Total—1854	$50,434,873 44

Amount and value of Quicksilver, the product of the State of California, shipped from San Francisco during the year 1854:

20,000 flasks, weighing 75 lbs each, making 1,500,000 lbs., at fifty cents per lb. $750,000

Of the agricultural resources and prospects of the State, he says:

The products of the year 1854 are generally believed to be amply sufficient for the supply of the home market. I have no data before me, upon which to base an estimate of the amount of corn and oats produced. Of wheat, not less, than three millions of bushels have been raised, and more than four millions of bushels of barley. Of potatoes, more than will suffice for home consumption have been produced; such is also the case as regards vegetables of all kinds, the yield during the year having been unusually large.

In fifteen counties, being less than one-half of the State, the beef cattle number three hundred and twenty thousand four hundred and twenty-seven, (320,407.)

The number which arrived within the last year by the overland route, is as follows: Through Noble's Pass, twenty-four thousand and twenty, (24,020); Beckwith's ten thousand one hundred and fifty-one, (10,151); Gila route, nine thousand and seventy-five, (9,075); Sonora Pass, five thousand one hundred and six, (5,106); Carson River route, twelve thousand nine hundred and ten, (12,-910); whole number, sixty-one thousand four hundred and sixty-two, (61,462.)

We cannot allude to all the topics treated of. The Pacific rail road and Chinese or Asiatic Immigration are considered at length, but nothing remarkably new or striking is said on the first; upon the latter subject the Governor enters at large to prove that the State may expel or exclude the Chinese population if she pleases, and he thinks she should do one or the other.

California Academy of Natural Sciences.

Jan. 8th 1855,

Col. L. Ransom, Vice President in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Davis of Mercantile Library Association presented two specimens of stalactite and stalagmite, taken from a limestone cave in Santa Cruz, Cal.

Dr. Kellogg exhibited a specimen of *Cupressus Thuoides* or White Cedar from the headwaters of the Sacramento;—also the drawing of a new variety of Quercus provisionally named Quercus Kennedi, from the vicinity of the summit of Tejon Pass.

Mr. Sloat presened a specimen of *Gryllotalpa* from Mr. Marshall.

Dr. Ayres read the following paper on two species of *Liparis pulchellus*.

Liparis pulchellus, Ayres—Of this singular little fish, but a single specimen has yet been observed. It was among a number of small fishes, at a fish-stall in one of the markets, and was probably taken in company with them, in some of the shallow waters of the Bay. It is six inches in leugth.

Form elongated, much compressed posteriorly, breadth and depth nearly equal anteriorly. Head subquadrangular, the sides being nearly vertical, with the upper and lower surfaces horizontal. Dorsal outline of the head sloping to the snout, which is very abrupt, appearing as though truncate transversely.—Breadth of the head contained six times in the total length; length of the head a very little greater than its breadth or depth.

Eyes placed midway in the length of the head; distance between the eye equal to half the length of the head; diameter of the eye equal to half the distance between the eyes.

Gill-opening above the base of the pectoral fin, small, only about equalling the diameter of the eye; the minute, slender opercular bone forming a small projection backward covered with the skin.

Mouth equalling in transverse diameter the distance between the eyes, but extending very little posteriorly, by no means reaching the line of the orbits. Lips smooth and fleshy. Teeth numerous, even, fine in each jaw, arranged in tesselated regularity, like those of some of the Rays; each tooth has a central prominence, causing its apex to appear partially tridentate. Similar teeth are found on the pharyngeals; none on the palatines or vomer. Lower jaw shorter than the upper. Mouth nearly terminal.

Anterior aperture of the nostrils tubular, about half way from the eye to the snout; posterior aperture smaller, seeming like a mucous orifice near the orbit.

Mucous pores numerous and large, especially about the head.

Skin smooth, scaleless, so loosely attached by cellular tissue to the muscles beneath as to be largely movable.

Dorsal, anal, and caudal fins united, so as not to be distinguished.

Dorsal fin single, elongated, arising far forward (less than half an inch from the head,) its greatest height, which is in its posterior half, equalling half the length of the head.

The *anal* arises about half and inch posterior to the origin of the dorsal, which fin it equals in height.

The rays which occupy the place of the *caudal* fin are, like those of the true dorsal and anal all simple; a few of the central ones project beyond the general outline of the fins, and indicate a true caudal, giving a rounded lanceolate termination.

The *pectorals* arise each from a base equalling in length the breadth of the head, and extending forward beneath the throat so as almost to meet its fellow of the opposite side, the two when closed covering and concealing the ventral disc. The upper portion of the fin, equals in height the length of the base; it then diminishes to less than half that height, while further forward still the height increases and the rays are free at their tips, the extreme anterior rays being again very short.

The *ventrals* are imbedded in the disc common to this family; it is oval, about equal in length to the greatest height of the dorsal fin.

The rays in the dorsal, caudal, and anal fins are about ninety eight, though it is not easy to enumerate them; of these about forty seven belong to the dorsal, eleven to the caudal, and forty to the anal.

Color light olive brown, with numerous narrow, waving lines of darker brown running longitudinally, and forming in some instances rings and irregular figures; abdomen and throat white; some small brown and white spots on the sides, one series faintly indicating a *lateral line* with a slight downward curve.

Liparis mucosus, Ayres—This species is closely allied to the last, *L. pulchellus*; it differs chiefly in the form of the head, the form and connection of the dorsal, anal, and caudal fins, and the colors.

The *head* is longer, its length being contained in the total length (excluding the caudal) four times; in *pulchellus* the proportion is one to five. The snout is rounded anteriorly, not truncate. The eye is smaller; its longitudinal diameter contained nearly six times in the length of the head.

The *dorsal* and *anal* fins both arise at about the same points as in *pulchellus*, and in their height and structure correspond well with those of that species; they are not, however, continuous with the caudal, but terminate at its base, leaving that fin separate and distinct, with a rounded extremity.

The dorsal is emarginated, a short distance from its origin, giving in a degree the appearance of an anterior dorsal. In *color*, this species is of a plain greenish olive, lighter beneath.

In the branchial aperture, the form of the operculum, the teeth, the nostrils, the pectoral fins, the ventral disc, the loose attachment of the skin, &c., this species agrees well with *pulchellus*.

Only two specimens have yet been observed, each a little over five inches in length.

Commercially, these small Sucking Fish are, of course, of no value. Their peculiar structure and habits, however, may well attract attention to them. By means of their ventral disc they attach themselves to stones and other objects, so strongly as to require much force for their removal. They belong to the same group of fishes with the Lump Fish of our Atlantic coast, the Cock Paddle of the Scotch.

Dr. Winslow exhibited a fragment of the lower jaw of an extinct elephant found in the drift of Texas Flat, in the neighborhood of Columbia, fifteen feet below the surface. It was 7 1-2 inches in length and the same in depth and contained the impression of a tooth, and the maxillary canal in a fine state of preservation. The fragment appeared somewhat rounded by attrition among the drift of the mining region, but on the whole is beautifully preserved. Though teeth of the *Elephas primogenius* correspond in shape to the impression on this fragment, probabilities favor the conclusion that the extinct elephants of this slope of the Continent differ wholly from those which ranged over the eastern regions of North America and other parts of the globe. This fragment belongs to Doctor Graves of Columbia.

The following resolution was adopted.

That it be the duty of the Recording Secretary to notify in writing, all persons who may be elected as resident members of the Academy; and that the corresponding Secretary do the same to Corresponding and Honorary members as soon after their election as possible. Adjourned.

C. F. WINSLOW,
Rec. Sec'y.

Statistics of Popular Education.

It may be instructive to compare the *native white* population, and the number of *native white* adults ignorant of letters in a few States:

	Population.	Ignorant Adults.
Maine	549,674	1,999
North Carolina	550,267	73,226
Massachusetts	819,044	1,055
Tennessee	749,661	77,017
Ohio	1,732,698	51,968
Virginia	871,393	75,868
Connecticut	324,095	726
Maryland	366,650	17,364
Rhode Island	119,275	981
Louisiana	187,558	14,950
New York	2,388,830	22,241
Missouri	514,52[illegible]	24,448

City News.

The Fair lately held by the young ladies of this city realised $631 for the Orphan Asylum. This donation speaks well for the sympathy of the future belles of this city, and argues strongly in favor of the generous promoters of this object.

The German General Benevolent Society, of this city, was founded January 7th, 1854. During the past year over 200 sick persons were boarded and attended, and 250 others assisted in produring places. A fund is being collected to erect suitable hospital buildings. The several German Societies of this city contain over 5000 volumes of standard works.

The two Hebrew Benevolent Societies have expended over $3000 the past year in charity and medicines, and bid fair to rival larger societies, containing more numerous members.

The Nicaragua steamer Uncle Sam sailed on the 9th, carrying about 200 passengers, and specie to the amount of $642,000. On the 1st inst. the Golden Age sailed, taking $1,402,241; total, in two shipments, $2,044,-241—being about $158,000 over the same shipment of last year.

APT REPLY.—A little French girl about seven years of age, who was a witness in one of the courts yesterday, was asked by Mr. Lussey, the interpreter, if she knew the nature of a lie. She replied promptly that she did not, as she never told any lies.—*Times and Transcript.*

During the past week the Recorder's Court has had several cases up for perjury, though with little testimony on the subject. In the last case the accused was held to bail in bond of $5,000.

WOMAN, VS. POLYGAMY.—Mrs. Clark, the *Editress* of the *Contra Costa*, (Oakland paper,) very properly speaks of the evils of this old form of degradation, and feelingly opposes the admission of Utah into the American Union, as a State. "Shall they (the Mormons) be received thus? Shall our Nation be cursed with all the horrors of that black night of ages, of ignorance and superstition, from which they have dragged their monstrous institution to the light of the nineteenth century? Shall manhood be so dishonored in our country? Shall Heaven be so insulted? Let the united voice of the Nation cry, never! And let the Alleghanians of the East, and Rocky Mountains of the West, give back their sublime never, in an eternal echo." And as an Atlantic paper very properly remarks, that when Utah applies for admission into the Union, "it will be necessary, for the first time, in the history of the American Union, to define in what a Republic consists."

☞By the Coroner's Report of San Francisco there were 242 inquests held during 1854. Of this number 44 were Irishmen, 32 Americans, and the remainder of all nations. It is not too much to say that nearly all these persons came to their sudden deaths while under the influence of alcoholic liquors.

Interior News.

The rain which has fallen in our city for a week past, has descended copiously in the interior, swelling the streams and rejoicing the heart of the miner who has waited so long for its appearance. The wind, however, which accompanied it, blew down many flumes and damaged the water ditches to some extent, as we learn from our exchanges from the mountains. But this is nothing compared with the new and bright appearance everything has assumed throughout the State since the 1st instant.

MOKELUMNE RIVER.—The Calaveras *Chronicle* gives the following result of the Filibuster Mining Company:—

They dug out this season, ending the 31st December, 1532 ounces; valued at $17 30 per ounce, it amounts to $26,503 60. Their expenses amounted to 4,800; leaving a handsome margin as remuneration.

CARSON'S.—This place, so famous for its valuable quartz mines, is attracting a large mining population who are making extensive preparations to work their side-hill diggings, the prospecting in which has been very flattering. We have several families settled here.—*Cal. Chron.*

NEW TAX COLLECTOR.—Mr. Geo. Grant, one of our worthy miners, arrested and delivered over to the Sheriff, a fellow who has been collectng foreign miners' tax from the Chinese, in the vicinity of White's Bar. He has been committed for trial.—*Ib.*

HANGING AT VOLCANO.—Jim Messer entered the house of Gordon McAllister, at Volcano, Friday evening, December 29th, and fatally stabbed him, there having been some slight difficulty before. Mr. McAllister died in about one hour. Search was immediately made for Messer, who was soon found, and brought into town, when it was asked by some one of the party, what should be done with him, and at once a hundred voices replied, hang him! hang him! He was hurried through town to a tree, just beyond the grave yard, accompanied by a large crowd, where he was allowed a few moments to make known his last wishes, and then was hanged by the neck until he was dead.

There was no dissenting or confusion among the crowd—they all seemed determined that a hanging should take place, and appeared satisfied when it was done.—*Amador Chronicle.*

THE IOWA HILL LYNCHING AFFAIR.—A letter in the Sacramento *Union*, dated Auburn, January 8th, says that the Iowa Hill excitement is at an end. On Sunday morning, about daybreak, Deputy Sheriff Dillingham, with a *posse* of about 150 men entered Iowa Hill, and arrested five persons charged with the hanging of Johnson, and resisting the Sheriff in the discharge of his official duties. Seven others reached Auburn on Sunday, and gave themselves up to the authorities. They have all been held to bail in the sum of $5,000 each.

DEEP SNOW.—The *Sierra Citizen* says that six men attempted to break the road from that place to Forest City, on Thursday evening, gave out, and were forced to camp out all night, without fire. They spread their blankets at the foot of a tree, and managed to keep from freezing to death, but four of them had their feet frozen. Snow on the ridge is about four feet deep. The Yuba river at Downieville was frozen over on Sunday night last. The mercury ran down to within two degrees of zero.

SNOW ON THE MOUNTAINS.—The *Trinity Times*, published at Weaverville, in the extreme northern portion of the State, says:

"It commenced raining on Saturday, Dec. 30, and it has continued to rain and snow alternately, with but little intermission, up to the present time. The snow in our streets is nearly two feet deep, and the surrounding hills are covered to a much greater depth. There has more snow fallen here during the past week than at any time since the winter of 1852."

The Sacramento *Union*, speaking of the snow on the Sierra Nevada in sight of Sacramento, says the eastern horizon is now bounded by an unbroken snowy belt. Not only the summits of the range of the Sierra are buried in their wintry mantle, but the snow now extends down to the tops of the lowest foot hills. No green spot thereabouts will be seen again before the advent of the vernal season. The hills immediately surrounding Placerville were covered with snow on Monday. During the week, small quantities of snow have fallen at intervals at Diamond Springs. On Tuesday morning the ground was covered, and the hills around wore a white mantle during the greater part of the day. At Georgetown, on Wednesday evening, there were six inches of snow. At Maj. Drown's, five miles from Diamond Springs, in the direction of Pleasant Valley, there were six inches; and at Sly Park, twenty miles distant, three feet.

DEEP ARTESIAN WELLS.—An artesian well has been sunk 355 feet in Stockton, without reaching water; and another in Marysville has reached 210 feet, and is yet without water.

FRANCS.—Through a private letter we learn that a mass meeting of the citizens of Moquelumne was held on Monday evening, to fix the correct value at which francs should hereafter be received. It was decided that henceforth they would only be received for 12 1-2 cents each.—*Chronicle.*

CONDITION OF THE INDIANS.—The *Shasta Courier*, in an article in relation to a public meeting recently held in Pittsburg to take into consideration the condition of the Indians of the North, says these unfortunate people are at present starving—starving, with three hundred thousand dollars in the hands of Col. Henley, and wagon loads of provisions suitable for them lying without purchasers all over the State. Col. Henley has been advised of their unhappy condition, but in response to a letter appealing to him for assistance, addressing John Dreibelbis, he says:

"My authority, however, goes no further than to remove and subsist Indians on Reservations selected for that purpose. I have no authority to feed them in their present location."

Obituary.

Died, on board steamship *George Law*, Dec. 14th, at 12 M. of chronic diarrhœa, Mrs. SUSAN F. FARISH, aged 27 years.

Mrs. Farish was born in Clark county Virginia. She accompanied her husband from Tennessee to California, in the Fall of 1580, and became a resident of Marysville.

In February last she returned to her native State for a visit and in the hope of recovering her impaired health.

Upon her return she left New York the 5th of December. Her death occurred a few hours before reaching Aspinwall. She was buried on the Isthmus where four years previous she contracted a fever that laid the foundation for much of her subsequent illness.—When it became apparent that she could not reach her husband, who remained in California, she desired to be buried by the side of a sister who died at Panama on her way to California in June 1853.

It was found impracticable to convey the remains across the Isthmus to Panama, and they were placed temporarily in a burial ground on an elevation about four miles from Aspinwall on the line of the railroad.

It will gratify her friends to know that she received, not only the care of her sisters who accompanied her, and of Mr. Adams a friend of her husband, in whose charge she was placed, but also every possible attention from the officers and servants of the ship.

It is with peculiar regret that we record the death of any of those noble christian women, who early encountered dangers, and endured hardships in becoming residents of California. They were often found in the tent and the rude house, ministering by the side of the sick and the dying. Their influence as members of society, and of the Christian church was large and important. They accomplished much, and will be remembered with lasting interest.

Mrs. Farish was of this number. She was one of the earliest residents of Marysville, and one of the earliest members of the Presbyterian church in that city. She endeared herself to the church, and to a circle of acquaintances. Possessed of true refinement and a kind heart, her hospitable home was the pleasant resort of her friends. Her record is with them, and her trust, also on high. She died in the comfort and hope of the gospel, in the assurance of a glorious resurrection and an eternal life.

Virginia and Tennessee papers please copy.

CLERGYMEN IN OFFICE.—A correspondent from Massachusetts writes us that "there are sixty-one clergymen in the present Massachusetts Legislature, and Messrs. Hudson, Palfrey, Fowler, Upham, and Trufton, who were recently members of Congress from that State, were each of them clergymen belonging to the different religious denominations of the day."

United States Land Commission.

Jan. 8th, 1855. — Present, Commissioners Felch.

CLAIMS CONFIRMED.

No. 666—A. Randall, "Punta de los Reys," Marin county, 11 leagues, claiming from Micheltorrena, 1843.

No. 256—Jose Joaquin Estudillo, "San Leandro," Contra Costra county, one square league, claiming from Alvarado, 1842.

No. 585—William Kelley, part of Salvador Ranch, 40 acres, claiming from Alvarado, 1839.

No. 586—John Patchett, part of Entre Napa, Napa county, claiming from Mariano Chico, 1836.

No. 587—Marta Frias de Higuerra, part of Entre Napa, Napa county, claiming from Mariano Chico, 1836.

Atlantic Items.

POLITICAL.—The Kansas election for delegate to Congress, resulted in the election of General Whitfield (pro slavery) over Messrs. Flennihen and Wakefield, of 1,900 majority, out of 4,000 votes cast.

The Know-Nothings continued to elect their local officers through the country, though sustaining a defeat in Newburyport, Mass.

No applicant for the Governorship of Utah had been made.

In Missouri a violent contest for the office of U. S. Senator is going on in the newspapers, without any indication of success to any political candidate.

The Hon. J. M. Clayton denies being a member of the Know-Nothing organization. Hon. M. Filmore is a member. So they say.

The Hon. Stephen A. Douglass has been invited to partake of a dinner, by the citizens of Louisiana, for his Nebraska and Kansas services.

President Pierce has appointed Mr. Geo. McCracken, of Oregon, U. S. Marshall. Vice J. W. Nesmitt resigned.

The Legislature of Lower Canada had passed the Maine Liquor Law.

At the late election, New York and New Jersey elected Legislatures favorable to the Maine Law.

The Supreme Court of Missouri have pronounced the Sunday Liquor Laws constitutional.

Several large iron factories, of Pennsylvania, of all kinds, have suspended operations, some of them, heretofore, regarded the most stable in the State.

On Thanksgiving Day, in the District of Columbia, at a horse race, an extensive fight occurred.

In Texas the Indians continued their depredations, and the Governor had mustered five companies into the service of the United States.

A writer in a Galveston paper states, that "from the report of the State Treasurer, the amount for the education of each pupil is about *sixty* cents a pupil, a *year*. We hardly know which to admire most—the wisdom displayed in this law or in the No License Law, by which grog shops are released from all the taxes."

The Roman Catholics have erected a college and a convent in Galveston, at a cost of $100,000.

The workshop of the Virginia State Prison was set on fire by the convicts, and entirely consumed, at a loss of $50,000. Only one prisoner escaped, during the excitement.

The escape from Emmetsburg, Md., of a young Nun, has given rise to several letters on the subject, all going to show the necessity of a general law for the inspection of all institutions by State authorities. Miss Bunkly, of Norfolk, Va., states that her escape was through necessity, and had it been otherwise she would have left by permission, and not clandestinely at night.

An interesting law suit is now before the Superior Court of Boston. It appears that the Federal street Unitarian Church is claimed by the Presbyterians, the *testator* of the land being of that denomination. Fifty years ago the Church was Presbyterian, then became Congregationalist, and is now Unitarian.

In Louisville a breach of promise case was amicably settled. The damages being laid at $30,000.

The N. Y. *Sun* gives the following account of Mons. Goddard's ascent in a balloon, at Paris, in company with three men and an animal from the hippodrome, in the parachute attached below the car.

"When about an eight of amile up, he cut the parachute loose, and it descended safely to the earth with its freight unhurt. Mr. Goddard then commenced the performance of his gymnastic feats in the air. At one time he whirled over and over the end of the trapezium; at another time grasping it with a single hand, he swung his body as a boy in a swing; then he appeared to be hanging with his chin over the rim of the car, and then with a single foot hung from the car—then descended by a rope twenty feet below the car, and ascended into the car, without accident.

HEAVY VERDICT.—The case of Samuel Drury, vs. George Willis and others, was decided in New York; the plaintiff receiving judgment in his favor, for $40,000, for having his house entered, and having papers, jewelry &c., carried off without *legal* authority.

Dr. Thompson of Virginia, was acquitted of the murder of Miss Pharr, (to whom he was engaged,) by a technicality of the law.

Punch says, in *theatrical* language, that "Prussia is waiting till *half* price begins.

The State of Massachusetts returned 150 paupers to Liverpool, by the ship John Elliot, most of them by their own will.

Mr. N. P. Willis has improved his health (as he writes) by horseback exercise.

A block of marble furnished by the Alumni of Washington College, at Lexington, Va., for the Washington Monument, has this inscription:—"From the Alumni of Washington College, the only College endowed by the Father of his Country."

OBITUARY.—Jno. N. Grimes, a distinguished lawyer of New Orleans, died December 3d. Madame DeLur, a miserly old woman, died, leaving $80,000 without a will.

Gov. Pease, of Texas, still refuses to receive the Wild-cat securities for the Pacific Railroad Co., offered by Messrs. T. Butler King, Walker & Co. The consequence will be endless litigation with the State of Texas.

The reports of the different engineers of the surveys made last year to California, will be presented to Congress, January 15, 1855.

The banking institutions of the north west are still looked upon with suspicion, and several of them have failed at last accounts.

California bonds in the N. Y. market are steady; the seven per cents., are quoted at 84c, the ten per cents. 104c.

There is no end to the vagaries of fashion. It is now said that the next style will be to wear bonnets on the head! The ladies will scarcely be recognized by their intimate friends.—*Providence Journal.*

The following curious advertisement appears in a Western paper: "Whereas, at particular times I may importune my friends and others to let me have liquor, which is hurtful to me, and detrimental to society,—this is therefore, to forbid any persons selling me liquor or letting me have any on any account or pretence; for if they do I will positively prosecute them, notwithstanding any promise I may make to the contrary at the time they let me have it."

The Rev. Dr. Stearns was inaugurated as President of Amherst College on the 22d. An address was delivered by the retiring President, the Rev. Dr. Hitchcock, and another by the new President. In the evening, Dr. Hitchcock was installed as pastor of the College Church. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr Leavitt, of Providence.

Deacon S. Spear, of Randolph, has handed us a piece of the cake made for his wedding which took place 40 years ago last September. Through all this period of married life the partner of his joys and sorrows has carefully preserved a fragment of the bridal loaf; and we can well imagine the influence this simple relic exerts in calling up the varied associations of the past with which it is so indissolubly linked in the memory of the aged couple.—*North Bridgewater Gazette.*

FROM THE SOUTH.—The steamer *America* Captain Haley, arrived on Sunday from below.

The New England Society of San Diego, celebrated the 22d of December. Hon J. J. Warner and others made addresses.

FOR CAMP YUMA.—On the 29th ult., Major McKinstry dispatched thirty-five wagons and mules from San Diego, with supplies for Camp Yuma. Thirty-five mechanics and and laborers go with the train, to erect buildings at that place. Major McKinstry will follow with six additional wagons. Major Brown, the Paymaster, has gone thither to pay the men at that station.

The holidays passed off at Los Angeles, in the usual manner, accompanied by bull fights, bell ringing, firing of crackers, fiestas and fandangos.

FROM THE GILA.—The *Star* announces the arrival of Captain R. Sackett, from a three months prospecting tour on the Gila. He brought fine specimens of copper ore, intermingled with pure virgin gold, from a point eighty miles distant from Camp Yuma, and forty from the Gila. He left twenty men at the mine making preparation for working it. The locality is supposed to be on American soil, and mineral wealth abounds around. Capt. S. thinks that copper can be smelted there, and delivered in New York, at ten cents per pound. They had been troubled by no hostile Indians.

A public school house, the first in the county, has just been finished at Los Angeles. Good teachers are now wanted for it.

The Cal. Stage Co., will commence a line of stages on February 1st., from San Pedro to San Bernardino, via Los Angeles, San Gabriel, Lexington and San Jose. A wagon road has been also completed from Los Angeles to Tulare Valley by the Tejon Pass.

James Bryant died in prison, at Los Angeles, the last of December. He had been arrested for an attack upon Sharpe.

Latest News from Sevastopol, Nov. 7th.

The great battle of Inkerman was fought, November 5th. The allied account represents the Russian attack upon the allies, to have consisted of 40,000 men, who were repulsed by 18,000 English and 4,000 French. The result as before—the defeat of the Russians—10,000 men placed *hors de combat*. Among the killed are four English generals, thirty-eight officers, 442 privates. Wounded—four generals, ninety-eight officers, and near 2,000 privates. The French loss in killed and wounded, is about fifty men, including one General Canrobert wounded.

The Russian account says their loss amounted to 3,500 soldiers, and 109 officers wounded—the number killed not given, though it is believed to be not far from the allied account, as over 5,000 Russians were buried by the English the day after the battle.

The Russians and allies were receiving strong re-inforcements—30,000 men on each side being on the way to the Crimea.

The bombarding of Sevastopol had ceased, until sufficient re-inforcements had arrived to carry the town by assault. On the other hand, the Russians were fortifying the private houses of the town, and the whole being underlaid with mines to be sprung, in case the allies entered the city.

A dispatch from Vienna states that the Russian Minister, Gorchakoff, intimated that Russia was willing to negotiate a peace, on the terms formerly proposed by the allies, viz:—the four guaranteed propositions—but that England and France refused the offer.

The government had employed all the large steamers for the war, taking off all the Cunard's mail steamers. The steamer contracts, besides expenses, amounted to $15,-000,000 per annum. The militia of the British kingdom were being drafted into the army, the premium or bounty being increased from $10 to $20 per head. The officers are to be appointed from those engaged in the great battles of Alma and Inkermann.

A despatch from Hamburg states that fourteen Russian war steamers had made a reconnoisance as far as Dugoo. The British fleet remained at Kiel. The government were sending out material for a winter campaign of the army in the Crimea, and the previous alarm of the people had given rise to hope and expectation of the success of the Allied forces.

We learn that the British government offered to purchase two of the Collins' line of steamers, which offer, though a good one, was declined.

SPAIN.—The country was in a political calm, the progressionists or radicals being likely to control the Government.

Austria and Prussia were still determined to remain neutral between Russia and the Allies.

ITALY.—Mr. Lewis Cass, *Jr.*, has been made a United States Minister, and presented his papers to the Pope. A reciprocity of the same is desired with the United States.

The French troops are preparing to leave Italy.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Friday, Jan. 5, 1855.

SENATE was called to order by Lieut. Governor Purdy. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Pratt, an Episcopal minister. The Governor's Message was presented, but being lengthy, its reading was dispensed with.

A resolution was passed to print 3000 copies in English, 500 each in German, French and Spanish.

ASSEMBLY.—Speaker Stowe in the chair. Motion to elect a Chaplain, voted down by noes 37, to ayes, 36.

The Governor's Message was presented and 5000 copies in English authorized to be printed and the same number in German, French and Spanish ordered by the Senate to be likewise printed for the Assembly. Most of the day wrs taken up in fixing upon the time for going into an election of a U. S. Senator, the successor to Dr. Gwin. By a vote of 59 to 14, the 10th of January was the day agreed upon. Committees were appointed to fix the compensation for members of the Assembly—to investigate the affairs of the State Prison, and to examine the report of the examiners of War Claims. Voted to adjourn over the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, to Tuesday, Jan. 9th.

Tuesday. Jan. 9, 1855.

SENATE.—A resolution to provide that the two Houses shall meet in joint convention on Wednesday, the 17th of January, in the Assembly Chamber, at 12 o'clock, to go into an election for U. S. Senator, was passed.

A resolution authorizing a joint committee of two from the Senate and two from the Assembly to visit the State Prison, to enquire into the reasons of the late numerous escapes, and report as early as possible, was passed.

Mr. Whiting gave notice of a bill to provide for a railroad and telegraph line from San Francisco to the eastern line of the State with branches thereto.

Mr. May gave notice of a bill for the sale of town lots on public lands, not mineral lands.

Mr. Crenshaw gave notice that he should offer amendments to the Constitution.

Mr. Tuttle offered a resolution requiring the Secretary of State to report to the Senate copies of all papers relating to any char

Mr. Flint gave notice of a bill to prevent Chinese and others not entitled to citizenship from holding mining claims.

The Senate adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.—House met pursuant to adjournment; Speaker Stowe in the chair.

On motion, Mr. Corley was granted leave of absence of ten days.

Mr. Clayton, of Yuba, took the oath of office.

Journal read and approved.

The Speaker then announced the Standing Committees-

Judiciary—Messrs. Edwards, Rogers, Ashley, Eyland, Ferrell, Burke, Sherwood, Farley.

Ways and Means—Messrs. Douglass, Cammel, Waite, Taliaferro, Dane, Amyx, Murdoch, Merideth, Jones.

Federal Relations—Messrs. Oxley, Johnston of San Francisco, Andrews, McConnell, Flournoy, Moreland, Cunningham, of Sierra, Baker, Foster.

Commerce and Navigation—Messrs. Buffum, Mellus, Gregg, Kenney, Corey, Bogardus, Beatty.

Education—Messrs. Gober, Kinney, Danna, Taliaferro, Bates, Farwell, Cunningham, of El Dorado.

Mines and Mining Interests—Messrs. Rowe, Atkinson, Amyx, Phelps, Wells, Meredith, Lincoln, Bolton, Smith, of El Dorado.

Printing—Messrs. Farwell, Sherrard, Arrington, Knox, Moreland, Hunt, Buffum.

Agriculture—Messrs. Brown, of Contra Costa, Telegraft, Douglass, Cook, Johnson, of El Dorado, Steward, Singley.

Corporations—Messrs. Whitney, Corey, Watkins, Johnston, of San Francisco, Atkinson, Stevens, Baldwin.

Accounts and Expenditures—Messrs. Mellus, Graves, Phelps, McGutchen, Foster.

Escheated Estates—Messrs. Ferrell, Ashley, Rodgers, Waite, Taylor.

Public Buildings and Grounds—Messrs. Lincoln, Curtis, Vineyard, Stewart, Smith, of Marin.

State Hospital—Messrs. Bates, Knox, Oxley, Geller, Jones.

Claims—Messrs. Waite, Brewton, Smith, of Marin, Brown, of Nevada, Gober.

Public Lands—Messrs. Doughty, Watkins, Brown, of Contra Costa, Johnson, of El Dorado, Covarrubias, Coombs, Ashley, Douglass, Stevenson.

Elections—Messrs. Hosmer, Corey, Knox, Arrington, Oxley.

Counties and County Boundaries—Messrs. Farley, Geller, Gaylord, Graves, Stevens.

Roads and Highways—Messrs. Gaylord; Smith, of Marin, Updegraff, Brown, of Nevada, Singley, Beatty, Whitney.

Enrollment—Messrs. Meredith, Smith, of El Dorado, Boles.

Engrossment—Messrs. Moreland, Quim, Palmer.

Military Affairs—Gen. Covarrubias, Capt. Hunt, Capt. Rowe, Gen. Douglass, Col. Edwards.

Mileage—Messrs Keyes, Gober, Clayton, Coombs, Sherrard.

Indian Affairs—Messrs. Burke, Murdock, Covarrubias, Chase, Gaver.

Mr. Ryland, from the Special Committee on Rules and Regulations, submitted their report.

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 1855.

SENATE met pursuant to adjournment. Lieut. Gov. Purdy in the Chair.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Pratt. Journal read and approved.

A message was received from the House, announcing its concurrence in resolution to meet in joint convention on Wednesday, 17th inst., for the election of a U. S. Senator. Also, that they had appointed a committee to assist in forming joint standing rules for both Houses.

On motion of Mr. Heitzleman, the Senate concurred in the resolution of the House, granting five months absence to Judge McKinstry.

Mr. Burton introduced a bill to change the name of the South Yuba and Sacramento Canal Company, to the Nevada County and Sacramento Canal Company.

Mr. Wall offered a resolution that the City of Sacramento shall be released from payment for the offices for the Governor and the other State officers. Some discussion ensued, and the resolution was withdrawn.

The Secretary then, by direction of the President, read the list of the

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Claims—Messrs. Flint, Rust, Mandeville.

Finance—Messrs. Moore, Tuttle, Burton, Rust, Day.

Judiciary—Messrs Sprague, Hall, Tuttle, Hawkes, Whiting, Crenshaw, Leake.

Elections—Messrs. Gove, McCoun, Hook.

Public Lands—Messrs. Keene, Gove, Mandeville, Day, Mr. Murray.

Commerce and Navigation—Messrs. Mahoney, Stebbins, Hall, Hawkes, Whiting.

Public Expenditures—Messrs. French, Scellan, Norman.

Federal Relations—Messrs. Tuttle, May, Flint.

Hospitals—Messrs. McFarland, McCoun, Keene, Hawthorne, Mahoney.

Mines and Mining Interest—Messrs. Wall, Hook, Scellan, Kendall, Norman, Burton, McNiel.

Indian Affairs—Messrs. Hook, May, McFarland, McNiel, Peck.

State Prison—Messrs. Crenshaw, Heintzleman, Colby.

Education—Messrs. Hawkes, Day, Keene, McFarland, Kendall.

Library—Messrs. Kendall, French, Mahoney.

Counties and County Boundaries—Messrs. Leake, Peck, Lippincott.

Corporations—Messrs. Whiting, Mandeville, Burton, Crenshaw, Hall.

Agriculture—Messrs. Heintzleman, Norman, Day, McGarry, Gove.

Printing—Messrs. Lippincott, Norman, Moore.

Roads and Highways—Messrs. Lippincott, Scellan, Mandeville.

Contingent Expenses—Messrs. McGarry, Hawthorne, Heintzleman.

Military—Messrs. May, Hawkes, McNiel.

Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Colby, Peck, French, Burton, Flint, McCoun.

Enrolled Bills—Messrs. Norman, Hawthorne, Stebbins, Scellan, Leake, McGarry.

Public Morals and Police—Messrs McNiel, Moore, Sprague.

Mileage—Messrs. Rust, May, Colby.

Internal Improvements—Messrs. Day, Norman, Hook, McFarland, McNiel, Flint, Whiting.

Escheated Estates—Messrs. Stebbins, Sprague, Gove, Mahoney, Tuttle.

Mr. Sprague gave notice of an act, making appropriations to meet deficiencies for Legislative expenses from February 1st.

Senate adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.—House met at 10 a.m.

A bill to fix the per diem of officers and members was laid over.

The Senate resolution for the appointment of a committee of two to examine into the affairs of the State Prison, was concurred in by the House.

Mr. Edwards offered a resolution that leave of absence for four months be granted to A. C. Monson, Judge of the Sixth Judicial District. Ayes, 49; noes, 22.

The papers in the matter of the contested election case of McCurdy vs. Galvin, were referred to the Committee on Elections.

A resolution urging upon our Representatives in Congress the necessity of the construction of a military road from the Missouri to the borders of this State.

Mr. Edwards moved a reconsideration of the vote whereby the House refused to elect a Chaplain. Carried. Various amendments were proposed and considered, but finally the original resolution passed, requesting the various clergymen of this city to offer alternately daily prayers at the opening of the session, for which duties they are to receive no compensation.

Report of Board of Land Commissioners was read and referred.

The resolution of the Senate granting five months leave of absence to Elisha W. McKinstry, Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, was taken up.

Mr. Ashley moved to insert "eleven" in place of five. Lost, and resolution concurred in by a vote of 46 to 24.

Mr. Meredith offered a resolution that a committee of three be appointed to inform the various clergymen of this city of the passage of the resolution inviting them to officiate at the opening of the daily sessions.

Mr. Buffum offered an amendment that a copy of said resolution be served on each of the clergymen of this city. Accepted, and resolution adopted.

Messrs. Meredith, Buffum and Gober were appointed said Committee.

A letter was read from D. D. Merick, one of the Latter Day Saints, offering his services to open the morning sessions with prayer.

On motion of Mr. Buffum, Mr. Merick was included in the number of officiating clergymen already selected. Vote 38 to 14.

House adjourned.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—By the last arrival from the Sandwich Islands, we hear of the death of King Kamehameha the III, and the ascension to the throne of Prince Liho-liho, as Kamehameha the IV. This change of rulers gives a final blow to the hopes of annexationists. So far as the United States are concerned, it is better without annexation.—The laws of the Islands already furnish as great facilities for commerce as could be desired, while there is no expense in sustaining the government. The Islands do not possess a single defensible point without a harbor, or any benefit which the people of the United States do not possess at present.

It is also stated, the Islands are not indebted to the amount of a dollar abroad or at home, which fact speaks well for the past government of the Islands.

Special Notices.

CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, on Bush street, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Dr. SCOTT. This Church will be opened for Divine Worship next Sabbath, 14th inst.

Dedication Sermon in the morning at 11 o'clock, by Dr. Scott.

Services in the evening at seven o'clock.

The public are respectfully invited to attend.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION. The regular monthly meeting of the above Association will be held in their Rooms (over the Post Office,) on Monday evening next, at 7½ o'clock, when an essay will be read by a member of the Association.

Young men, and all others interested in the objects of the Association are invited to attend.

CALEB BURBANK, Esq., will lecture at the Hall of the Sons of Temperance next Sabbath at 2½ o'clock, p.m.

☞ The meeting House on Pine street (formerly Baptist) will be opened for religious services on Sunday next, at 11 o'clock, a.m. and 7 p.m. Regular exercises will be held at the same hours on every Sabbath until further notice.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

The San Francisco Bible Society have on hand a full assortment of Bibles and Testaments, just received from the American Bible Society, consisting of Pulpit and Family Bibles of different styles, Reference Bibles of various sizes, Pocket Bibles; also Bibles and Testaments, suitable for Sabbath Schools.

Depository on Stockton street, between Union and Green. Application may also be made by letter, to Rev. FREDERICK BUEL, San Franrisco.

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH meet in the 4th District Court Room, City Hall, every Lord,s Day, at 11 o'clock, A. M. A course of Lectures, explaining their principles and doctrine, will be delivered by the Pastor, Elder J. H. Rickett. The Public are invited to attend.

REDDING'S RUSSIA SALVE.

This is a Russian preparation of great efficacy and power. This gosid ointment is the best and surest remedy for Burns, Scalds, Felons, Flesh Wounds, Old Sores, Piles, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Frost-bitten parts of the body, Corns and Sores of every kind. For thirty years this Salve has been sold in the New England States, and is well known to be an

EXCELLENT FAMILY REMEDY.

It is prompt in action, removing pain at once, reduces the most angry looking sores, and giving in a short time a complete cure.

REDDING'S RUSSIA SALVE is a prompt cure for Whitlows, Ulcers, Warts, Sties, Sore Lips, Festers, Ringworm, Scurvy, Bunions, Sore Eyes, Itch, Scald Head, Nettle Rash, Salt Rheum, Ingrowing Nails, Flea Bites, Spider Stings, Shingles, Eruptions, Frozen Limbs, Mosquito Bites, Sore Ears, Boils, Bruises, etc. etc.

GOLD DIGGERS AT THE MINES

Should provide themselves with a remedy which may be applied at all times and under all circumstances. Many an individual has been laid up for weeks, in places distant from their homes and medical assistance, in a state of privation and suffering, who, if they had been provided with a box of REDDING'S RUSSIA SALVE might have dressed their own Burns or Scalds, been speedily cured, and then gone on their way rejoicing; whereas, for the lack of it they have incurred trouble, loss of time, and expense.

California Emigrants should never be without it, for they would find it of the greatest possible benefit, in the many accidents that occur on the Plains, in the Desert, and in crossing the Sierras of the West. Indeed, in such circumstances, a box of it is of more value than a box of the same size filled with gold dust.

As a cure for the diseases caused by the use of the leaves of the

POISON OAK IN THE DIGGINGS,

It is the only cure, and thousands of boxes go annually to California for this purpose alone.

For Miners and Travelers there is nothing as useful as REDDING'S RUSSIA SALVE.

Sold by traders generally in all parts of California, or wholesale or retail, by

PARK & WHITE,

94 Merchant Street, 3rd door above Montgomery.

dec 15-3m

Lyon's Extract of Pure Jamaica Ginger.

"DEAR SIR—I speak from a general knowledge of the virtues of Ginger, and particularly of your preparation of Jamaica Ginger, having used it three years in my practice. For Dyspepsia, Cholera, Cholic, Summer Complaints, Fever and Ague, Rheumatism, Nervous Debility, General Weakness, etc., it is unquestionably the best article in the world. Its effect in enabling the system to throw off and resist disease of all kinds so usual during warm weather, makes it invaluable to every family. Its timely use would prevent nine-tenths of the protracted sickness during the summer season.

Yours truly, R. M. CHILSON, M. D.,
133 Broad Street, New York."

This article, particularly adapted to this climate, and which is so universally used, can be had in most of the Drug Stores in California, and at PARK & WHITE'S, proprietors for the Pacific Coast, 94 Merchant Street, third door above Montgomery, San Francisco.

☞ Purchusers should be careful and enquire for LYON'S EXTRACT OF JAMAICA GINGER, as it is the only **Pure Extract** of Jamaica Ginger now manufactured.

Dec. 15, 1854. 3m.

Sons of Temperance.—Excelsior Division, No. 6, S. of T., meets every MONDAY EVENING, at 8 o'clock, in "Sons of Temperance Hall," on Washington street, corner of Jones' Alley.

The following are the officers for the present quarter:—

A. C. Manning, W. P. E. Hyde, T.
Albert Green, W. A. B. D. Bullard, C.
Geo. M. Chalwill, R. S. J. Tyson, A. C.
Geo. S. Soren, A. R. S. Geo. Winslow, I. S.
C. C. Knowles, F. S. Henry A. Shaw, O. S.
Thomas Welsh, Chaplain.

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MARRIAGES.

In this city, at the house of Mr. Chas. F. Van Antwerp, on the 5th Jan., by the Rev. T. Dwight Hunt, Mr. Wm. Stevens, of Auburn, Placer county, to Miss Isabella Sinclair, late of Edinburgh, Scotland.

In the Monte, Los Angeles county, Jan. 1st, John McCullum to Miss Melinda Crandall, both of Los Angeles.

In Washington, Yolo county, Jan. 2d, Samuel Anderson, of Placer county, to Miss Sarah Donald.

In Uniontown, El Dorado County, Jan. 1st, Jos. R. McGonagle to Miss Mary Jane Blandell.

In Colusa county, Jan. 2d, John McNulty to Mrs. Jane Macklay.

On Dry creek, Shasta county, Jan. 2d, William Reglin to Miss Sarah Wells.

In Calaveras county, Jan. 1st, James Finnegan, of Carson's Creek, to Miss Julia Horton, of Albany Flat.

DEATHS.

On the Middle Branch of Jackson Creek, Dec. 25, George Barclay, formerly of London, aged about 32 years.

At Mokelumne Hill, Jan. 2d. S. D. Ball, aged about 40.

At Rich Gulch, Dec. 24th, Mrs. J. W. Houston, aged 31 years, formerly of Keokuk, Iowa.

In Marysville, Jan. 6th, Mrs. Josephine Chambers, (formerly Hirschey,) a native of Hanover, aged 41 years.

In this city, Jan. 6th, Elias Newcome White, aged 5 years and 6 months.

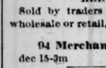
In Placerville, Jan. 1st, F. B. Littlefield, aged 25 years, formerly of Monroe county. Michigan.

Pacific Mail Steamship Company

Departure from Vallejo Street Wharf.

FOR NEW YORK AND NEW ORLEANS,
VIA PANAMA.

The new Steamship



SONORA,
2,500 Tons,
R. L. WHITING, Commander,

Will leave Vallejo Street Wharf for PANAMA, with the regular Mails, Passengers and Treasure, on

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1855,
AT NINE O'CLOCK, A. M.

FORTY MILES BY RAIL ROAD!!

Passengers will be furnished with Through Tickets, covering the Isthmus expense.

☞ Treasure for shipment will be received at the office of the Company until 10 o'clock, P. M., Monday, 15th inst.

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Jan. 12, 1855.

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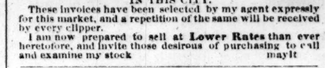

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Whereby most of their articles are manufactured and kept fresh and ALWAYS HOT. By the use of Steam they prepare their Coffee, Tea and Chocolate as required, which makes them far superior in quality to any other like establishment in the City.

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Always hot and fresh till 12, M., and Tea Biscuit from 12, M. to 11, P. M. Puddings, Rice, Mush and Hominy hot from 12, M. to 7, P. M.

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Made from Flour manufactured in this city, from Fresh California Buckwheat. HOT ENGLISH MUFFINS, at all hours.

The PASTRY at the Railroad Bakery is universally admitted to far surpass any in the city, constituting every variety of FRESH FRUIT PIES, &c,

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oct31

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Schools and Institutions.

Benicia Female Seminary.

THE sixth semi-annual session of this Institution will commence on TUESDAY, January 9th, 1855. Miss M. ATKINS, late Principal of the Female Department in the Hughs' High School, Cincinnati, Ohio, will have the entire charge of the Seminary, and having secured the services of a highly competent teacher of Music, and also other valuable assistants, she is prepared to assure Parents and Guardians that the Ladies committed to her charge shall enjoy a system of instruction best suited to the attainment of a *thorough education*, together with the comforts of an attractive and well-ordered home.

Terms per session of five months, payable half in advance:

Board and tuition in English Branches.....$100 00
Washing, per dozen.....1 50
Instrumental Music, with use of Piano.....30 00

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Boarding and Day School,
SONOMA.

THE second semi-annual session of this Institution will commence on MONDAY, the 8th day of January, under the direction of Miss I. H. HUDSON, late Principal of the Benicia Female Seminary. An eligible and commodious house has been obtained, and every effort will be made to secure the highest intellectual and moral improvement of the Young Ladies committed to her charge. The most careful attention will be given to their health, physical improvement and manners; and parents may feel assured that their daughters will enjoy parental care and be surrounded by all the genial influences of a Christian home. From the many testimonials that Miss Hudson can furnish from distinguished gentlemen in Northern and Southern States, where for many years she was connected with the best schools and seminaries, and from the success which has attended her efforts to promote the cause of Education in this country, she hopes to give satisfaction to parents and guardians.

The most approved Teachers will be employed for the various branches which may be deemed necessary to secure a solid, practical and finished education.

Miss Hudson is assisted by a French and Music Teacher, who speak the German and French fluently—one of whom is an experienced teacher and as such has occupied the most distinguished situations both in England and America, and parents wishing to give their daughters an opportuity to study the French and German languages, and to perfect themselves in a thorough English education will find here a pleasant home, where they will be subject to salutary discipline and regular systematic study.

The climate of Sonoma is justly celebrated and the valley unsurpassed for health and beauty. Being retired and free from unfavorable influences from without, the location is admirably calculated for purposes of study, and a safe retreat for the edcation of Young Ladies.

The course of instruction will embrace the branches usually taught in our High Schools and Seminaries, and the pupils advanced from the primary to the higher departments of study, according to their capacity and improvements.

TERMS:

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EXTRAS.

Piano, with use of instrument, - - - 40 00
French and Spanish Languages, Drawing, Painting and Vocal Music, each, - - - 15 00
Entrance (to be paid at once,) - - - 10 00

Each pupil must be provided with sufficient bedding and clothing, four napkins and towels, knife, fork and spoon, combs, brushes, &c.

Terms per session payable half in advance.

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Webster as a Student.

Mr. Webster remarked, in one of his speeches: "My life has been one of severe labor in my profession. I know not how the bread of idleness tastes." This is literally true. From the day, when he entered Exeter Academy, at the age of fourteen, to the hour of his death was one uninterrupted scene of toil. Aged men, who were familiar with his early life, mention, among their earliest recollections of his childhood, a fondness for books above his years. His father kept open doors for all travellers. The teamsters, who came from the North, were accustomed to say, when they arrived at Judge Webster's house, "Come, let us give our horses some oats and go in and hear little Dan read a Psalm." They always called for him; and, leaning upon their long whip-stocks, listened, with delighted attention, to the elocution of the young orator. This fondness for books first prompted his father to give him a better education than the district school afforded. At Exeter, he had no peer in successful and accurate study. His residence there was brief. The limited means of his father would not warrant the expense of a continued residence at that Academy. A cheaper method of preparing him for college was devised. He was placed under the care of Rev. Samuel Wood of Boscawen.

His kind Mentor once ventured to suggest his fears lest young Daniel's example, in devoting so much time to his favorite amusements, might prove injurious to the other boys. He did not complain that his task was neglected, or that any lesson was imperfectly prepared. This suggestion was sufficient. The sensitive boy could not bear the suspicion of any dereliction of duty. The next night was devoted to study. No sleep visited his eyes. His teacher appeared in the morning to hear his recitation. He read his hundred lines without mistake. He was nowhere found tripping in syntax or prosody. As his teacher was preparing to leave, young Daniel requested him to hear a few more lines. Another hundred was read. Breakfast was repeatedly announced. The good Doctor was impatient to go, and asked his pupil how much further he could read. "To the end of the twelfth book of the Æneid" was the prompt reply. The Doctor never had occasion to reprove him again. His study hours, ever after, were sacred. In less than a year, he read with his teacher, Virgil and Cicero, and, in private, two large works of Grotius and Pufendorf, written in Latin. During the month of July, his father called him home to assist him on the farm. At this time of life, young Daniel had but a slender frame and was not able to endure much fatigue. The trial of a half day brought the boy home with blistered hands and wearied limbs. The next morning, his father gave him his little bundle of books and clothes and bade him seek his teacher again. Dr. Wood met him, with a cordial greeting on his return and assured him, that, with hard study, he might enter College at the next Commencement. He then had two months to devote to Greek; and, he had not yet learned the alphabet. With characteristic energy, he grappled with the task and achieved a victory of which few can boast. What one of those College idlers, who talk so flippantly about the idleness of Daniel Webster when a student, has prepared himself for a like station in two short months? The students of that day were deprived of many of the comforts and luxuries of life which are now so liberally enjoyed. They usually travelled on horseback. Their dress was entirely of domestic manufacture. When Daniel Webster went to College, he took the least valuable of his fathers's horses, which would not be missed from the farm, and depositing his scanty wardrobe and library in a pair of saddle-bags, set out for Hanover.—Scarcely had he lost sight of his father's house, when a furious north-east storm began to beat upon the solitary traveller. The rain poured down, incessantly, for two days and nights. A necessity was laid upon him to be present at the commencement of the term. He, therefore, made such speed as he could, with his slow-paced Rozinante, over bad roads, throug the pelting storm, and reached the place at the close of the second day, if not a "sorrowful knight," at least, in a sorrowful condition. He joined his class next day and, at once, took the position in it, which he has since held in the intellectual world. By the unanimous consent, both of teachers and classmates, he stood at the head of his associates in study; and, was as far above them, then, in all that constitutes human greatness, as he is now. After a residence of two years at College, he spent a vacation at home. He had tasted the sweets of literature and enjoyed the victories of intellectual effort. He loved the scholar's life. He felt keenly for the condition of his brother Ezekiel, who was destined to remain on the farm and labor to lift the mortgage from the old homestead and furnish the means of his brother's support. Ezekiel was a farmer in spirit and in practice. He led his laborers, in the field, as he, afterwards, led his class, in Greek. Daniel knew and appreciated his superior intellectual endowments. He resolved that his brother should enjoy the same privileges with himself. That night the two brothers retired to bed, but not to sleep. They discoursed of their prospects. Daniel utterly refused to enjoy the fruit of his brother's labor any longer. They were united, in sympathy and affection, and they must be united in their pursuits. But how could they leave their beloved parents, in age and solitude, with no protector? They talked and wept and wept and talked till dawn of day.—They dared not broach the matter to their father. Finally, Daniel resolved to be the orator upon the occasion. Judge Webster was then somewhat burdened with debt. He was advanced in age and had set his heart upon having Ezekiel as his helper. The very thought of separation from both his sons was painful to him. When the proposition was made, he felt as did the patriarch of old, when he exclaimed, "Joseph is not * * * and will ye also take Benjamin away!" A family council was called. The mother's opinion was asked. She was a strong-minded, energetic woman. She was not blind to the superior endowments of her sons. With all a mother's partiality, however, she did not overestimate their powers. She decided the matter at once. Her reply was: "I have lived long, in the world; and have been happy in my children. If Daniel and Ezekiel will promise to take care of me, in my old age, I will consent to the sale of all our property, to raise the money, which our debts require to be paid, and they may enjoy the benefit of their own industry here, while our debts are paid in the country of heaven by our old mother."